
HOUSE BILL 2620

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Representatives Kretz and Short

Read first time 01/22/14. Referred to Committee on Environment.

1 AN ACT Relating to enhancing the potable water supply by
2 encouraging treatment of raw groundwater; and amending RCW 70.119A.100.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.119A.100 and 1991 c 304 s 1 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 The legislature finds that:

7 (1) The responsibility for ensuring that the citizens of this state
8 have a safe and reliable drinking water supply is shared between local
9 government and state government, and is the obligation of every public
10 water system;

11 (2) A rapid increase in the number of public water systems
12 supplying drinking water to the citizens of this state has
13 significantly increased the burden on both local and state government
14 to monitor and enforce compliance by these systems with state laws that
15 govern planning, design, construction, operation, maintenance,
16 financing, management, and emergency response;

17 (3) The federal safe drinking water act imposes on state and local
18 governments and the public water systems of this state significant new

1 responsibilities for monitoring, testing, and treating drinking water
2 supplies; and

3 (4) Existing drinking water programs at both the state and local
4 government level need additional authorities to enable them to more
5 comprehensively and systematically address the needs of the public
6 water systems of this state and assure that the public health and
7 safety of its citizens are protected.

8 Therefore, annual operating permit requirements shall be
9 established in accordance with this chapter. The operating permit
10 requirements shall be administered by the department and shall be used
11 as a means to assure that public water systems provide safe and
12 reliable drinking water to the public. The department and local
13 government shall conduct comprehensive and systematic evaluations to
14 assess the adequacy and financial viability of public water systems.
15 The department may impose permit conditions, requirements for system
16 improvements, and compliance schedules in order to carry out the
17 purpose of chapter 304, Laws of 1991. Wherever possible, the
18 department shall seek to enhance the potable water supply by
19 encouraging treatment of raw groundwater sources where they exceed
20 maximum contaminant levels.

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